

Commander Dave Manero has been an integral member of my staff and has contributed greatly to the best-trained, best-equipped, and best-prepared naval force in the history of the world. Dave's superb leadership, integrity, and limitless energy have had a profound impact on my entire staff and will continue to positively impact the United States Navy and our Nation. On behalf of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I wish Dave, his wife Justina, and their children Michael and Elizabeth "Fair Winds and Following Seas" and the best of luck in their bright future.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES B. HECKER, U.S. AIR FORCE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and say farewell to an outstanding Air Force officer, Lieutenant Colonel Jim "Scorch" Hecker, upon his departure from my staff. Lieutenant Colonel Hecker was selected as an Air Force Fellow to work in my office during the Second Session of the 107th Congress due to his professional reputation and superior knowledge of Defense issues, the United States Air Force requirements process, and the military presence in my home State. He has been a valued team member and it is a privilege for me to recognize his many outstanding achievements and the superior service he has provided the United States Senate, the Air Force, and our Nation.

Lieutenant Colonel Hecker, the son of Rick Hecker and Cindy Walker, was a graduate of the Air Force Academy where he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. Since then, Lieutenant Colonel Hecker has spent the majority of his career patrolling the world's skies as an Air Force fighter pilot. Following flight training, he began his service flying the F-15C "Eagle" in the 8th Fighter Squadron, 49th Tactical Fighter Wing at Holloman AFB, NM. When the F-15C's left Holloman AFB, so did Lieutenant Colonel Hecker. He was reassigned to the 390th Fighter Squadron, 366th Wing, Mountain Home AFB, ID. During this tour, Lieutenant Colonel Hecker was instrumental in bedding down the F-15C aircraft in the first Composite Wing in the Air Force. After this tour, Lieutenant Colonel Hecker attended the Air Force Weapons School at Nellis AFB, NV with a follow-on tour at the 44th Fighter Squadron, 18th Air Base, Okinawa, Japan. As the squadron Weapons Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Hecker was the lead pilot responsible for preparing the squadron to go to war. During this tour, Lieutenant Colonel Hecker deployed in support of Operations SOUTHERN WATCH where he led combat missions patrolling the skies over Iraq enforcing the no-fly zone. In July 1998, Lieutenant Colonel Hecker was handpicked to return as an instructor at the Air Force Weapons

School where he deployed in support of Operation ALLIED FORCE. Lieutenant Colonel Hecker led 10 combat missions and was the focal point in the Combined Air Operations Center C5 Strategy Cell for resolving air-to-air issues. In 2000, Lieutenant Colonel Hecker left the cockpit to serve on the staff of the Secretary of the Air Force in Washington, DC as an Air Force Senate Liaison Officer and then was selected to serve as a Military Legislative Fellow during the 2nd session of the 107th Congress.

Lieutenant Colonel Hecker quickly became a valued member of my staff sharing his proven operational experience and insightful knowledge on a number of Department of Defense issues, including defense health care, operational beddown of C-17 and C-130J aircraft, various weapons systems, military construction, university research programs, and economic development projects. Specifically, Jim was instrumental in helping the Air Force gain Congressional support for the F/A-22 aircraft and solve the weather radar problem with the WC-130J aircraft at Keesler AFB. He helped me articulate a successful case for adding funding for additional maintenance training simulators and military construction projects that will help ensure the successful beddown in Jackson, MS of the first ever C-17 aircraft assigned to the National Guard. He successfully negotiated with Northrop Grumman Corporation to move the production of the Global Hawk's wing as well as full assembly of the Fire Scout to Mississippi. Lieutenant Colonel Hecker's coordination with the staffs of the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Senate Appropriations Defense Subcommittee led to over \$108 million in military construction funding for Mississippi's military bases.

Lieutenant Colonel Hecker is married to the former Terrie Lee Draney of Colorado Springs, CO. They have two children, 7 year-old son Jaden and 5 year-old son Colton. The Congress and the country applaud the selfless commitment his entire family has made to the Nation in supporting his military career. Among Lieutenant Colonel Hecker's many awards and decorations are the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Medal with oak leaf cluster, and Air Force Achievement Medal along with numerous other campaign and unit distinctions.

Lieutenant Colonel Hecker will return to the Air Force at Langley AFB, VA where he will once again control the skies in the F-15C. I have appreciated greatly Lieutenant Colonel Hecker's contributions to my team and I will miss him. On behalf of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I wish Lieutenant Colonel Hecker and his family "Good Hunting and God-speed."

HOLLADAY JOHNSTON RICHARDSON

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, our friend and distinguished colleague, STROM THURMOND, has a lost a dear member of his Senate Family. Holly Richardson's courageous battle with breast cancer ended early Monday morning. I do not use the word courageous lightly; if there ever was a courageous cancer patient, it was Holly Richardson. She fought until the end and never gave up.

Holly was one of the most delightful people I have ever met. She was STROM THURMOND's right, hand lady for almost 25 years and she meant so much to the entire Thurmond family. Holly's strong faith helped her immeasurably and while we all mourn her passing, we know where she is.

Her obituary in this morning's Columbia, SC, newspaper, *The State*, poignantly describes this remarkable lady, as does the article about her in today's Charlotte Observer. I ask unanimous consent that they be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the State, Columbia, SC, Oct. 1, 2002]

HOLLY JOHNSTON RICHARDSON—LONGTIME THURMOND CONFIDANTE
(By Lauren Markoe)

WASHINGTON.—Holly Johnston Richardson—confidante, gatekeeper and personal adviser to U.S. Sen. Strom Thurmond since 1978—died Monday of breast cancer.

"Early this morning, I lost one of my closest friends and staff members," Thurmond said in a statement issued by his office. "She was a member of my extended family in every sense of the word."

The Summerville native was 48. Since 1979, Richardson functioned as Thurmond's master scheduler, making sure he was in the right place at the appointed time. Her supersized Rolodex included the numbers for scores of average South Carolinians and several heads of state, and she could get most of them on the phone in seconds.

But generations of staffers say it was her Southern charm, impeccable manners and love for Thurmond that made her one of the most important people in his life.

"I've seen the senator cry twice. When his daughter died and today, when Holly died," said Mark Goodin, a former press secretary and adviser to Thurmond. "She was always there for him. I don't think anybody ever thought she would go before he did."

Thurmond's daughter Nancy Moore Thurmond died in a car crash in 1993. The oldest living and longest-serving senator, he will turn 100 on Dec. 5.

Chris Kelley Cimko, Thurmond's press secretary from 1993 to 1997, said Richardson went well beyond her office duties in her service to Thurmond, particularly before he began living at Walter Reed Army Medical Center last year.

"When she was cooking Sunday night, she would make a double batch of whatever it was and make sure it was in his refrigerator," said Cimko.

"Like all trusted staff members, Holly Richardson had my ear," Thurmond's statement continued. "What she probably never knew fully is that she had my heart."

Richardson met the Thurmond family after joining his 1978 re-election campaign, just

after her graduation from Converse College in Spartanburg. She drove a camper, nicknamed "Strom Trek," over 10,000 miles in 10 weeks, recalled Nancy Thurmond, the senator's now-estranged wife.

Her first job in Thurmond's office was to answer phones, greet visitors and help out with constituents' problems. She also oversaw the office's intern and page programs, which gave high school and college students opportunities to learn the workings of a congressional office.

Generations of interns, staffers and members of Congress recall her courtesy and work ethic.

"Holly Richardson was one of the most personable and efficient people I've ever known," said N.C. Sen. Jesse Helms. "She was unfailingly pleasant and devoted to Strom Thurmond—a feeling that was mutual."

"She treated everyone the same way, with dignity and respect," said Cimko.

She is survived by her husband, Phil, and two children, Emmett, 12, and Anne 9, and her parents, Joanne and Coy Johnston of Summerville.

Richardson, an active member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Alexandria, Va., her adopted hometown, had a strong faith that supported here and others. She was also an active member of the Junior League.

"When we lost our daughter, Holly's vigilant faith helped to sustain all of us," Nancy Thurmond said.

But as devoted as she was to the Thurmond's her own family still came first, said Nancy Thurmond. She and staffers said they marveled at Richardson's ability to balance her family life and her work on Capitol Hill.

She was diagnosed with breast cancer less than a year ago, and rebounded after rounds of chemotherapy. But the disease spread, and she had to stop working several months ago.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Columbia.

[From the Charlotte Observer, Oct. 1, 2002]

THURMOND STAFFER DIES OF CANCER AT 47

(By Charles Hurt)

WASHINGTON.—Holladay Richardson, one of Sen. Strom Thurmond's top aides for nearly a quarter century, died Monday morning after a year-long, fight against breast cancer. She was 47 and the mother of two children.

"Words cannot begin to express my deepest sadness and pain with the loss of Holly," Thurmond wrote in a statement.

In a statement made part of the Senate's public record, South Carolina's senior senator said many aides over the years had his ear, but that only Richardson "had my heart." He called her his "unofficial third daughter."

Richardson's most recent post was scheduler, the person who sets up Thurmond's calendar.

She first worked for him in South Carolina on his 1978 Senate campaign. Since 1979, she has shared Thurmond's Washington office, where she has seen eight chiefs of staff come and go.

Nationally syndicated political columnist Armstrong Williams recalled Richardson's importance from his days on Thurmond's staff more than 20 years ago.

"I can't remember the senator without Holly," he said. "I knew she had cancer, but this is terrible. She was always there."

As Thurmond's health faded in recent years, Richardson and other top staffers assumed greater roles in the office of American history's oldest and longest-serving senator.

"Holly protected him, would finish sentences for him and knew what he was think-

ing," Williams said. "She was everything that anybody would ever want in a daughter. She was like a child protecting her parent."

In May, Richardson and her family walked in the National Race for the Cure in Washington.

She described to a reporter for Roll Call at the time how she and her family had coped with her diseases by helping people less fortunate, such as a bed-ridden neighbor for whom they cooked.

"You go through a few minutes of self pity before you realize that you can either sit here and feel sorry for yourself or you can put it aside and move on," she was quoted as saying. "That's how my family has gotten through this, by focusing on others who are in bad situations. Extending a hand to others, that's what life is all about."

Richardson is survived by her husband, Phil, their children Anne, 9, and Emmett, 12, and her parents, Joanne and Coy Johnston of Summerville, S.C.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSWOMAN PATSY T. MINK

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, on Saturday, September 28, 2002, Hawaii lost a beloved and extraordinary daughter, PATSY TAKEMOTO MINK, who represented Hawaii in the U.S. House of Representatives for 24 years. I extend to her husband, John, and daughter, Wendy, my sincerest condolences.

The passing of Congresswoman MINK is a great loss for our Nation and our State, and it is a personal loss for me. She was an honorable colleague and a dear friend throughout our political careers.

I was privileged to work with PATSY in 1956, when we were both members of the Hawaii Territorial House of Representatives. She was the first Asian-American woman elected to the Hawaii Legislature. In the 1960s, we both gave speeches at Democratic National Conventions. She was Chairwoman of the Honolulu City Council. In 1964, she joined me as a member of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation when she became the first Asian-American woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. For 24 years, she was an integral part of the Hawaii Delegation. I appreciated her honesty, I respected her thoughts, and I admired her resolve.

Throughout her public service, PATSY concerned herself with making our country a better place for all people. She will be remembered for her powerful and passionate voice as she championed causes for women, children, the elderly, and the needy. For those who were vulnerable or mistreated, she was their able and loyal defender.

Born Patsy Takemoto in a plantation community in Paia, Maui, on December 6, 1927, PATSY had the intelligence and work ethic to succeed in any profession. However, medical school eluded her and the legal community did not embrace her after she received her law degree from the University of Chicago in 1951. The reason she was rejected by medical schools and legal circles? Her race and her gender.

Rather than accept defeat, the strong-willed PATSY set out to elimi-

nate the societal barriers of the day, and ran for office in the U.S. House of Representatives, which at that time was comprised of mostly white and mostly males members. She won the election and went on to pave the way for new generations of women to more fully enjoy their rights as citizens of a great nation.

PATSY co-authored and spearheaded the difficult passage of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination in educational opportunities based on gender at institutions receiving federal funds. It opened academic opportunities for women, and revolutionized the world of sports. Since the passage of this landmark legislation, participation by girls in high school athletics nationwide has increased nearly tenfold, and college participation has grown almost five times. College scholarships awarded to women in 2002 were worth \$180 million. Title IX serves as the foundation of the careers of today's top professional U.S. female athletes. The U.S. women soccer team's 1999 World Cup triumph, U.S. women's domination of Olympic sports, and the birth of the women's professional National Basketball Association are rooted in Title IX.

To fully appreciate the significance of Title IX, compare women's sports in 1972 to today as reported by the Honolulu Advertiser. In 1972, the only woman with an athletic scholarship at the University of Hawaii was a drum majorette. Of UH's \$1 million athletic budget, \$5,000 was given to women's club sports. Today, UH spends \$4 million annually on 11 women's teams.

PATSY's reputation as a relentless and formidable lawmaker extends beyond the passage of Title IX. She advocated for civil rights, peace, education, health care, and the environment with equal eloquence and effectiveness.

I last spoke with my friend, PATSY, in August at a fund-raising event in Hawaii. She mingled and talked with constituents with her trademark vim and vigor. Her deep love for her constituents and her nation was evident. She was focused on the future and continuing her service to the people of Hawaii.

PATSY answered the call to public service to the end, and her work immeasurably improved America's landscape for the under-represented and down-trodden for whom she had so much compassion. As my colleagues and I continue our work, we will long be able to look to Mrs. PATSY MINK's life of service for inspiration and hope.

REFLECTING ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, one year ago, this Nation stood united. Together we mourned, prayed, and hoped. We hugged our loved ones a little bit longer and a little bit tighter. Our hearts wept for the thousands of families who unexpectedly and unbelievably lost a husband or wife, a